

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAKAR 04184 161702Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NEA-07 /032 W

-----161727Z 095543 /46

O 161650Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9891

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 4184

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SG, XF

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT SENGHOR FOR SECRETARY VANCE

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED ON JUNE 16 FROM PRESIDENT SENGHOR
SEALED ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO SECRETARY VANCE.
ENVELOPE BEING POUCHED TO AF/W (SMITH) CLASSIFIED
POUCH TODAY.

2. ATTACHED TO FORWARDING LETTER SIGNED BY PRESIDENT
SENGHOR'S PRIVATE SECRETARY IS CARBON COPY OF LETTER FROM
SENGHOR TO SECRETARY DATED JUNE 13. EMBASSY TRANSLATION
OF FULL TEXT FOLLOWS:

3. QUOTE DEAR MR. SECRETARY. MR. YASSIR ARAFAT, PRESIDENT
OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION, HAS JUST MADE A
THREE-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO SENEGAL.

THE MAIN THEME OF OUR DISCUSSIONS WAS AFRO-ARAB
COOPERATION, AND IN THIS FRAMEWORK, THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN
PROBLEM.

I FOUND IN MR. YASSIR ARAFAT A PERSON WHO HAS NOT
CHANGED; INTELLIGENT AND OPEN-MINDED, BUT ABOVE ALL,
PREFERRING DIALOGUE.

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HE SPOKE OF THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, OF THE
EFFORTS OF KING KHALED OF SAUDI ARABIA AS WELL AS THOSE
OF PRESIDENTS SADAT OF EGYPT AND ASSAD OF SYRIA, "THE
FRIENDS OF THE UNITED STATES," WITH A VIEW TO FINDING
A JUST AND LASTING SOLUTION TO THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN
PROBLEM. AFTER THE VICTORY OF MR. MENAHEM BEGIN, FAR

FROM HAVING TURNED AWAY IN DESPAIR, MR. ARAFAT STILL WISHES
TO HAVE A DIALOGUE IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE.
HE DOES NOT HIDE THE FACT, HOWEVER, THAT IF, FACED WITH MR.
BEGIN'S INTRANSIGENCE, THE CONFERENCE FAILS, THERE COULD
ONLY BE A RESORT TO WAR TO ARRIVE AT A JUST SOLUTION.

NATURALLY I TOLD HIM OF OUR EXCHANGE OF LETTERS, AND I
TOLD HIM THAT I WOULD WRITE THIS TO GIVE YOU THE RESULTS OF
OUR CONVERSATION. HE SAID HE WAS DELIGHTED.

I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SEND YOU MY CONGRATULATIONS
FOR THE ACTION OF THE FIVE WESTERN COUNTRIES WHICH ARE MEMBERS
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AIMED AT RESOLVING THE MAJOR PRO-
BLEMS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. AMERICA IS IN THE PROCESS (THROUGH
THAT ACTION) OF GAINING THE CONFIDENCE OF THE AFRICANS.
HOWEVER, IF THE WEST HAD LET MATTERS TAKE THEIR COURSE IN
ZAIRE, THAT CONFIDENCE WOULD HAVE BEEN LOST FOREVER.
(COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE.) SIGNED LEOPOLD SEDAR
SENGHOR. END QUOTE.
AGGREY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Reason:
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TAGS: PFOR, PSDC, SG, XF, XI, PLO, (SENGHOR, LEOPOLD SEDAR), (VANCE, CYRUS R), (ARAFAT, YASSIR)
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